

Message Text

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43

ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 NIC-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-03 DRC-01 SS-20

NSC-07 /105 W

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R 031407Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6983

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 3834

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AINR EG IR

SUBJECT: APPOINTMENT OF AMBASSADOR ANWAR AS MINISTER OF STATE
FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS

REF: TEHRAN 4453 (NOTAL)

1. JUNE 1 CAIRO PRESS ANNOUNCED APPOINTMENT OF AMBASSADOR
MOHAMMAD SAMIH ANWAR AS MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS.
FOLLOWING BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SUPPLEMENTARY TO THAT IN
REFTEL IS FROM EMBASSY'S FILES:

DATE OF BIRTH: 1919

LATE CAREER: 1959 - APPOINTED MINISTER PLENIPOTENTIARY AT
EGYPTIAN EMBASSY IN MOSCOW
1963 - MINISTER PLENIPOTENTIARY AT EGYPTIAN
EMBASSY IN LONDON
1964 - DIRECTOR OF NORTH AMERICAN DEPARTMENT,
FOREIGN MINISTRY
1966 (FEB) - DIRECTOR OF MFA'S RESEARCH DEPARTMENT
(SEPT) - APPOINTED AMBASSADOR TO KUWAIT
1968 - HEADED EGYPTIAN DELEGATION TO NON-ALIGNED
NATIONS CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE, BELGRADE (JULY,

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1969)

- HEADED EGYPTIAN DELEGATION TO NON-ALIGNED
NATIONS CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE, NEW DELHI
(MARCH, 1970)
1970 (NOV) APPOINTED AMBASSADOR TO IRAN

2. COMMENT: CONCUR THAT ANWAR'S MOSCOW SERVICE MAY HAVE BEEN CONTRIBUTING FACTOR IN HIS PRESENT APPOINTMENT. PRESENCE OF RESPECTED AND CAPABLE DIPLOMAT WITH SOVIET EXPERIENCE AS FOREIGN MINISTER'S DEPUTY WILL HELP TO ADJUST WHAT SOVIETS BELIEVE IS STRONG PRO-US BIAS IN MFA BROUGHT OUT BY FAHMY HIMSELF FOLLOWING HIS APPOINTMENT AS FONMIN LAST NOVEMBER. POSITION OF MINISTER OF STATE IS NOT NEW: LAST INCUMBENTS WERE HAFEZ ISMAIL (MARCH 1971) AND MURAD GHALEB (SEPTEMBER 1971). IT HAS BEEN ANTICIPATED FOR SEVERAL MONTHS THAT POSITION WOULD BE RESUSCITATED IN ORDER TO PROVIDE MUCH-NEEDED ASSISTANCE TO FAHMY, BOTH DURING HIS ABSENCES FROM CAIRO AND FOR INTERNATIONAL MATTERS FOR WHICH HE HAS INCREASINGLY LESS TIME.

3. AS INCIDENTAL INFORMATION, ANWAR'S SISTER IS MARRIED TO ISMAIL SABRI, BROTHER OF ALI SABRI. LATTER IS STILL IN PRISON FOR HIS INVOLVEMENT IN MAY, 1971 AFFAIR, BUT REPRESENTS PAST LINK WITH SOVIET UNION.
EILTS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION, PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS, MINISTER COUNSELORS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 JUN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: cunninfx
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974CAIRO03834
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: DG ALTERED
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740140-0533
From: CAIRO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740681/aaaacrsv.tel
Line Count: 84
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: TEHRAN 4453 (NOTAL)
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: cunninfx
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 JUN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <06 JUN 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <19 FEB 2003 by cunninfx>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: APPOINTMENT OF AMBASSADOR ANWAR AS MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS
TAGS: AINR, PINR, EG, IR, (ANWAR, MOHAMMAD SAMIH)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005